

THE
MONTHLY



GULL
BULLETIN

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Number 9

CHRIS NELSON TO BE SEPTEMBER SPEAKER

Chris Nelson, head of the East Bay Regional Parks' naturalist staff, will discuss the present status of the regional parks at the picnic meeting of Golden Gate Audubon in Tilden Park, Berkeley, on **Thursday, September 12**. Bring your own picnic supper to the Indian Camp picnic tables near the entrance to the Tilden Nature Area at **6 p.m.** The regular meeting will begin at **7:30 p.m.** Visitors are welcome.—MRS. PHYLLIS ZWEIGART, *Program Chairman*.

GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON OFFICERS FOR 1968-69

Golden Gate Audubon Society elected the following officers at the annual dinner in June: President—Mrs. Herbert Boese; Vice President—Joshua Barkin; Vice President—Roger H. Coffee; Treasurer—Glen Ellwood; Recording Secretary—Mrs. John Dang; Corresponding Secretary—Miss Elizabeth McClave; Directors—A. Warren Larson, Miss Bertha Underhill, and Mrs. E. S. Gillette, Jr.

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER FIELD TRIPS

Saturday, September 7, a morning trip to Alameda for the fall migration of shorebirds. Meet at **9 a.m.** at the entrance to Lincoln Park, High St. and Santa Clara Ave., Alameda. Leader: Phyllis Zweigart, 526-7295.

Saturday, September 7, a boat trip off Monterey for the study of migrating sea birds and mammals. As this issue of *The Gull* went to press we were able to obtain the second boat, therefore space may still be available. See July-August *Gull* for details on making reservations. Leaders: Alan Baldrige, Ted Chandik, Dave DeSante.

Tuesday, September 10, the morning trip to Alameda will be repeated.

Saturday, September 21, Point Reyes Bird Observatory (PRBO), Marin Co., the first full-time bird banding station in North America. PRBO will give a banding demonstration, and if you wish to learn more about the subject, personal instructions can be obtained. Trails leading to various bird habitats, including the seashore, make this area especially attractive. Those who wish to leave at noon can take advantage of the early afternoon receding tide at Bolinas Lagoon to observe shorebirds. Meet at **8:15 a.m.** in the rear parking lot of Elwood's Restaurant, which is in the northern

part of the town of Stinson Beach on Highway No. 1. Allow an hour's drive from the Golden Gate Bridge and 45 minutes extra if you plan to have breakfast at the restaurant.

Saturday, October 5, Monterey Peninsula to observe migrating sea and land birds. For the HARDY seafarers a boat trip has been scheduled for Saturday leaving Fisherman's Wharf, Monterey, at **9 a.m.** and returning at 3 p.m. Fare: \$7 per person. Make check payable to Golden Gate Audubon Society and mail with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Valeria DaCosta, 2090 Pacific Ave., San Francisco 94109. Details will be sent with acknowledgement. The Monterey boat trips are popular with people from all parts of the country. Demand for space on the Monterey boat trips is heavy, therefore please make your reservations early. *Reservations for the October 5 boat trip will close on September 20 or earlier if boats are filled.* Leaders: Alan Baldrige, Ted Chandik, Guy McCaskie, Arnold Small and Russell Wilson.

The Monterey Peninsula Audubon Society has scheduled three half-day land trips for **Sunday, October 6**:

(1) *Pacific Grove Shoreline*. Meet at Lover's Point parking area at **8 a.m.** Will include Greenwood Park, Crespi Pond and Pt. Pinos, Asilomar Beaches for land and shorebirds.

(2) *Moss Landing-Salinas River Mouth*. Meet on Jetty Rr. ($\frac{1}{4}$ mile north of bridge over Elkhorn Slough) at **9 a.m.** for shorebirds.

(3) *Point Lobos State Reserve*. Meet at Reserve Entrance at **9 a.m.** There is a small entrance fee. Land and shorebirds and sea mammals.

Saturday, October 19, Point Reyes Peninsula with a choice of a ten-mile round trip hike on Bear Valley trail or a visit to various habitats for late fall migrating birds. Details will be in *October Gull*.

—MRS. VALERIA G. DaCOSTA, *Field Trips Chairman*

NOTE—Pt. Reyes Bird Observatory needs help with "Operation Seawatch" (counting seabirds) on weekends and Wednesdays in September and October. The new lookout is windproof and waterproof. Please contact Raymond Higgs, 3501 Fillmore, S.F. 94123, 922-5437.

SIERRA CLUB TRIP IN COYOTE HILLS

The Natural Science Section of the Sierra Club invites Golden Gate Audubon members to tour the Coyote Hills Regional Park in Fremont on **Saturday, October 5**. Ron Russo, Regional Park Naturalist, will lead a walk near the marsh and S.F. Bay, and will discuss the White-tailed Kites, herons, and other wildlife of the park. Winfield Henn, Curator of S.F. State College Anthropological Museum, will explain the work being done on the Indian mounds. After lunch, Dr. Poulter, Director of the SRI Bio-Sonar Lab, will discuss the Lab's work with seals. Bring lunch and water. Meet at **10 a.m.** at Parking Lot No. 1 (several hundred yards south of the SRI Lab. Do *not* use the SRI Lab parking lot). Directions for reaching Coyote Hills Regional Park were in the July-August *Gull*. For further information phone Ivan Aarnowsky, 567-3922 (SF) or Art Lampert, 793-5163 (Fremont) between 7-9 p.m.

pair of Williamson's Sapsuckers. Birds were abundant around the lodge and included Blue Grouse and Mountain Quail. From the beginning to the end of a perfect birding day we thank Echo Summit Lodge hostesses, Mrs. Esther Blake and Mrs. Tense Deal for their fine home-cooked meals.

—VALERIA DaCOSTA, *Field Trips Chairman*

OBSERVATIONS

Aubrey Burns found a *Yellow-crowned Night Heron* catching crabs along the San Rafael waterfront on July 12—the first record for Northern California. More than 30 Audubon members observed it in the same area for two weeks.

On the same waterfront Ted Chandik and Dave DeSante discovered an adult *Little Blue Heron* on July 28.

A Blue-winged Teal drake was in Coyote Hills Regional Park marsh June 18 with resident Cinnamon Teal.

Paul Covel reported Least Terns at Lake Merritt June 18 through mid July, and Elsie Roemer observed them at Alameda in the same period.

A poor-will was caught by a cat in U.C. Botanical Garden June 13.

A Golden-crowned Kinglet was observed singing in Samuel Taylor Park (Marin Co.) at 1,000 ft. elevation on June 13 by A. Laurence Curl. Dr. Curl also watched a Grasshopper Sparrow singing in a remote area north of Tilden Park June 7. From the Laurel Canyon fire road in Tilden Park below Wildcat Peak he heard a Black-chinned Sparrow singing.

From the U.S.N.S. Perseus, W. Patrick Dunbar saw a Laysan Albatross only 15 miles from shore about 110 miles north of San Francisco on May 24. (near Pt. Cabrillo).



AUDUBON CANYON RANCH, BOLINAS LAGOON

Under joint sponsorship of Golden Gate and Marin

Audubon Societies to protect a major rookery of

Common Egrets and Great Blue Herons.

In Memory of:

Gift of:

Hubert Fry Ted Van Velzen, Aileen Pierson, Mr. & Mrs. H. K. Trousdale

Mrs. Scythia Ehret Dr. & Mrs. Eric Reynolds

Mrs. Victoria Erikson Mrs. Sylvia Thomas, Mrs. Patricia Kaiser

Mrs. Leslie Barstow Bonnie Smith

Gifts were made *in honor of* Herbert Coggins by Mr. & Mrs. Harry Hartman; *in honor of* Dr. Albert Boles by Oakland Boy Scout Troops 380 & 326. Mrs. Lura Boeck and Mrs. Mary Hutchinson made gifts to Save Kent Island Fund|—DR. ALBERT BOLES, *Sanctuary & Memorial Fund Chmn.*

Grant; **March 18**, *Switzerland* by Phil Walker; and **April 18**, *Return to the South Pacific* by Eric Pavel.

Season tickets at \$7.50 may be ordered from the office of the Oakland Museum Association, 274 Nineteenth St., phone 893-4257. Laurel Reynolds, Golden Gate Audubon Society member, who started the series eight years ago, will again serve as chairman. This year an opportunity is being given the members of our Society to become sponsors of this series. A contribution of ten dollars entitles the subscriber to the series to two guest admissions to the program of their choice, and to attend the no-host dinner preceding the opening, which will be given in the garden of Dr. and Mrs. Eric Reynolds, Piedmont. All profits of the Wide World Series, as in the past, will be used for the acquisitions fund of the Natural Science Division of the new Museum, now scheduled to open in the late Spring.

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

Mt. Diablo. On Saturday, May 18, about 37 members and guests met at the South Gate (Danville) entrance to Mt. Diablo State Park. The weather at 7 a.m. was cool but clear and the chaparral-covered slopes below the road proved to be productive of the species we sought. Black-chinned, Rufous-crowned and Sage Sparrows were observed, as well as Lazuli Buntings. Warblers were scarce in comparison with other years due probably to the advanced season. A considerable number of common summer resident species were seen and heard, including Blue-gray Gnatcatcher.—HARRY and BETTY ADAMSON, *Leaders*.

Yosemite National Park, Memorial Day weekend led by Ted Chandik, Larry Curl and Warren Larson. We were favored by excellent weather, and the birds—from Calliope Hummingbird to the Great Gray Owl—were accommodating. (The owl, unfortunately, was missed by those who left the Perego meadows early on Saturday.) It was sitting five feet off the ground on a tree by the road to the Valley. Over 20 pictures were taken.

South Peninsula Coast, June 29—often referred to as the Grasshopper Sparrow field trip because the bird is so local and elusive. The leader, Ted Chandik, again managed to nail it down for the 50 or more Audubonites who attended the trip. Pigeon Guillemots, summering loons and scoters were observed at the Princeton Pier. In the afternoon we looked in vain for nesting Black Swifts. The area seemed to be disturbed with cliffclimbing people.

California Alpine Lodge, Echo Summit, July 13-14. Pat Triggs, the leader, became ill at the last moment. With the help of her instructions by telephone I was able to guide the group over the weekend. We were favored by fine weather and many singing birds. On Saturday morning we took a boat across Echo Lake and hiked from there to Tamarack Lake and were accompanied en route by a male singing Pine Grosbeak. Mountain Bluebirds, Townsend's Solitaires, Clark's Nutcracker, and a Rock Wren, singing from the tip of a tree, joined us for lunch by the lake. Returning to the lodge in the afternoon we were greeted by a family of Yellow-bellied Marmots who were frolicking on the rocks 20 feet away. Sunday morning we hiked to nearby Bendwood Meadow where we had a fine view of a

pair of Williamson's Sapsuckers. Birds were abundant around the lodge and included Blue Grouse and Mountain Quail. From the beginning to the end of a perfect birding day we thank Echo Summit Lodge hostesses, Mrs. Esther Blake and Mrs. Tense Deal for their fine home-cooked meals.

—VALERIA DaCOSTA, *Field Trips Chairman*

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September

THE GULL

1968

GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

Established January 25, 1917 A Branch of the National Audubon Society since 1948

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Vice President	Joshua Barkin	Tilden Park Nature Area, Berkeley	94708	524-2495
Vice President	Roger H. Coffee	220 Palo Alto Ave., San Francisco	94114	556-4105
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Conservation Chairman	Paul F. Covell	2860 Delaware St., Oakland	94602	536-4120
Canyon Ranch Film Crmn.	Mrs. Bonnie Smith	555 Dewey Blvd., San Francisco	94116	681-7635

Send address changes to Membership Secretary promptly; Post Office does not forward THE GULL. Monthly meetings second Thursday 7:30 p.m. Joint membership, Local & National \$10 per year, includes AUDUBON MAGAZINE and THE GULL. Subscription to THE GULL separately \$2 per year. Subscription to THE CYGNET, bulletin for children edited by Mrs. Nickelsburg, \$1 per year.

The *Gull* deadline is the first of the month for the following month.